



# **LIBERATION NEWS SERVICE**

#570 November 21, 1973

Packet #570  
November 21, 1973

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GRAPHICS

COVER: This photo was taken in the Democratic Republic of (North) Vietnam in February, 1971. May be used with the "Hang in There" record review on page 4.

CREDIT: Anne Dockery/LNS.

Line graphics: Energy crisis as refinery for increased oil company profits;  
Greek junta informs shackled Greece it is a democracy;  
Dancing women;  
Soldiers with bayonets - dead body.....P-1

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Collective: Anne Dockery, Beryl Epstein, Howie Epstein, Ellen Garvey, Cidne Hart, Barbara Plog, Sandy Shea, Mike Shuster, Jessica Siegel, Ron Sirak, Nancy Stiefel

Comrades: Minton Brooks, Safra Epstein, Joe

Correspondents: Schofield Coryell--Paris  
Richard Trench--Belfast

\*\*\*\*\*  
ATTENTION ATTENTION ATTENTION ATTENTION

For graphics to go with the energy story in packet #569 look in packets #541, 543, 545, 546, 555

Also, the ending quote in the story is from The Iron Heel, a novel by Jack London. It should be explained that London, who was mostly known for his nature stories, was an active socialist. The Iron Heel is an early 20th century novel about the advent of fascism in America, and left resistance.

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[Note to editors: See packet #569 for the first article in this series.]

HEALTH CARE IN THE UNITED STATES:  
"WHO WILL PAY YOUR BILLS?"

Part II

HEALTH PAC/LIBERATION News Service

[Editor's note: The following is the second of three articles on the medical industry and national health insurance taken from a new HEALTH PAC pamphlet called "Who Will Pay Your Bills?"]

For a copy of the full 30-page pamphlet write to HEALTH PAC at either 17 Murray St., New York, N.Y. 10007 or 558 Capp St., San Francisco, Calif. 94110. It's 50¢ apiece or 30¢ apiece for orders of ten or more.]

\* \* \*

Did you know that:

*\*\* Of the \$83 billion that Americans spent for health in 1972 at least 10% went directly for profits.*

*\*\* Drug companies earn over \$600 million in profits each year and spend \$1.5 billion more in advertising.*

*\*\* The health insurance industry collected \$20 billion in premiums in 1970 and paid out only \$17 billion in health care benefits. The companies kept \$3 billion for administration, advertising and profits.*

Congress now has at least ten national health insurance proposals before it. Each proposal represents the interests of one or more actors on the American health care scene. For instance, the American Medical Association's (AMA) "Medicredit" is for the doctors. The "Healthcare" bill is sponsored by the Health Insurance Association of America.

"Health Care Services" was written in the American Hospital Association's offices. President Nixon's 1971 bill benefits insurance companies and other large corporations hoping to move into the health care field. And Senator Russell Long's (D-La.) Catastrophic Health Insurance Program is a deliberately minimal plan representing those opposed to major federal health spending.

Of all the proposals, only Senator Edward Kennedy's (D-Mass) is sponsored by what could be considered "consumer groups" in the health care field--the labor unions. And though this bill has received the widest grass-roots publicity and support, it has the least chance of passage.

Once serious debate begins on national health insurance, the outcome will not be the passage of one bill or another. Ideas from various bills will get mixed up into a national health insurance law. Also, national health insurance won't come in one big leap. It's likely to come step by step over the next ten years or more. But let's look closely at a couple of the proposals to get an idea of who is proposing what.

The Catastrophic Health Insurance Program

The Catastrophic Health Insurance Program (CHIP) is the creation of Senator Russell Long, chairman

of the key Senate Finance Committee that must approve all national health insurance legislation. CHIPS pays only for disastrous illnesses, not for ordinary health care expenses.

CHIPS's most important features are its deductibles and co-insurance. Not intended to pay most medical bills, the plan has a 60-day hospital deductible. *This means that the federal government covers hospital costs only after a person has been hospitalized for 60 days.* People would have to rely on private insurance, Medicare or Medicaid to pay for the first 60 days.

Those without such insurance or with inadequate insurance might spend several thousand dollars before getting help from CHIP. CHIP covers chronic hospital care, but not nursing homes. And even after the 60th hospital day, CHIP makes patients pay \$17.50 co-insurance each day.

For non-hospital services, every family has a yearly deductible of \$2,000. A family must spend \$2,000 for doctor bills, X-rays, and laboratory tests before receiving aid from CHIP. Even then, CHIP pays only 80% of costs, leaving each family with a 20% co-insurance. Only after total co-insurance payments reach \$1,000 does CHIP pay the whole cost. And even then dental care, eyeglasses and drugs are left out.

CHIP is financed by the regressive social security system and is administered like Medicare, with minimal controls on hospital and doctor fees. No provision is made for improving the supply, distribution and organization of services.

CHIP, then, is not designed to meet the needs of the average family. It assists only those 2% of people with devastating illnesses. And even these people must spend hundreds or thousands of dollars before the insurance pays up. Most importantly, CHIP fails to pay for any simple preventive services that could reduce the amount of catastrophic illness in the country.

The Nixon Administration's 1971 Plan

In February, 1971, President Nixon promised "to insure that no American family will be prevented from obtaining basic medical care by inability to pay." That same year he introduced a national health insurance plan with three separate parts: employer-employee payments to insurance companies for working people, tax-supported insurance for low-income families, and Medicare for the elderly.

The Nixon bill has not reappeared in the present session of Congress. But in April, 1973 the influential Committee for Economic Development, representing the nation's largest corporations, came out for a similar plan.

The Health Insurance Association of America's bill is also close to the 1971 Nixon proposal. And Nixon's top health aides will soon announce a new similar bill. The 1971 plan is the clearest statement of a widely accepted concept of national health insurance and is worth a close look.

Nixon's plan for working families isn't much different from the health insurance that many workers now hold. Presently a number of employees

buy health insurance from Blue Cross, Blue Shield or a commercial company--through their employers or their unions.

Nixon's plan would *require* all employers to help buy health insurance for employees and their families. The required insurance is limited. It does not pay for the first two days of hospital care, which could mean over \$100 a day. And the employee has to pay the first \$100 of doctor bills (a \$100 deductible) for each family member up to \$300.

25% of all additional hospital bills and doctor bills are also paid by the patient, not by the insurance company. And the insurance fails to pay anything for dental care, medicines, or mental health care. The insurance payment is estimated at about \$400 a year for each family. Employers are technically responsible for 75% of this payment.

Lower-paid working people will carry the heaviest burden since the insurance payment is the same for all employees: whether rank-and-file worker or vice-president.

How will Nixon's plan affect the average American family? A healthy family usually spends about \$140 per year on doctor bills and \$60 for visits to the dentist. Nixon's insurance, with its \$100 deductible per family member, will seldom pay for any of these costs. For most families the insurance company will receive \$400 each year and will pay out nothing.

Nixon's program for low-income people is yet more limited. The government buys health insurance for families earning under \$3000 and pays for part of the insurance costs of families between \$3000 and \$5000. However, the plan for low-income families covers fewer medical expenses than the plan for middle-income families.

Lower-income people are insured for only a limited number of days in the hospital, only eight visits to the doctor each year, no drugs, dental care, or mental health services. *Over six million people have better health insurance now under Medicaid than they would get from the Nixon plan.* For these people, his national health insurance is actually a cutback.

Let's look at a family of four earning \$4,500. Nixon requires a contribution from them of \$100 per year for their insurance; the government pays the rest. The first two days of hospital care are not covered, costing perhaps \$200. And the family is responsible for the first \$100 of other doctor bills plus 25% co-insurance for additional bills. Since rent and food eat up \$4,000 of their income, there is no way they can meet these medical costs.

Nixon's plan seems to rate pretty low on its ability to relieve us of financial worry about illness. How, then, does the plan stack up on assuring care to each and every one of us when we need it?

Along with its twin Committee for Economic Development proposal, Nixon's plan favors the creation of health maintenance organizations (HMOs). HMOs are heralded as a better way to deliver health care. They bring doctors, hospitals, nursing homes, labs and pharmacies together under one management. We would sign up with an HMO, and our insurance company would pay that HMO a fixed sum each year. We would

seek care from the HMO's affiliated doctors and hospitals, but would have to pay extra for getting care elsewhere.

Some of us have been receiving care from HMOs for years; from Kaiser on the West Coast, HIP in New York City, Group Health in Seattle and others.

*It's important to realize that HMOs get the same amount of money regardless of how many services we use, which gives them a financial interest in providing less rather than more services.* This has the advantage of discouraging the HMO's doctors from performing excessive surgery or putting people in the hospital unnecessarily. But HMOs have a tendency to go overboard in limiting services, often making it hard for us even to get needed doctors' appointments.

How a particular HMO responds to people's needs depends on who is running it. The Nixon administration would like to see large profit-making corporations and insurance companies start up HMOs. Already Connecticut General, Equitable, Westinghouse, Texas Instruments and smaller corporations are trying out this new investment opportunity.

In its overall strategy, Nixon's plan opens new doors for large companies to receive a larger share of the \$83 million health care pie. Particularly the health insurance industry stands to gain. According to Business Week, an additional \$3 billion would be channeled to health insurers each year.

The AFL-CIO points out that "The partnership proposed by the Nixon Administration is a partnership between the federal government and the private insurance industry--a most profitable arrangement for the industry, but very costly for the American people."

This is no surprise, since rich insurance executives contributed heavily to Nixon's political campaigns. W. Clement Stone, for example, chairman of the large Combined Insurance Company, gave Nixon \$2.8 million in 1968 and another \$2 million in 1972.

Why are private insurance companies needed at all under national health insurance? Money could be collected by the government and paid directly to doctors and hospitals. Government financing would save a great deal of the \$3 billion used each year by the insurance industry for advertising, high executive salaries, other largely unnecessary administrative costs, and profits. The \$3 billion could be put to other uses--it is enough to operate well-staffed health centers in 3000 communities.

By controlling the use of billions of dollars of health care money, the insurance industry already is more and more in the position of deciding who gets health care, what kind of care it is, and how much it costs. Nixon's plan and its current counterpart, the Health Insurance Association of America's 1973 bill, would increase this power of insurance companies placing our care even more in the hands of people who are not primarily concerned with health.

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[The third and final article in this series will talk about the Kennedy insurance plan and a plan by the Medical Committee for Human Rights outlining a truly public system of health care.]

[See packet #504 for background information on the Greek junta and its U.S. ties.]

GREEK GOV'T MEETS STUDENT DEMOS WITH MARTIAL LAW:  
"IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO HAVE A WESTERN-TYPE  
SOCIETY WITHOUT ORDER AND SECURITY"

LIBERATION News Service

ATHENS, Greece (LNS)--After a three month absence, martial law returned to Greece November 17 when military strongman George Papodopoulos, who changed his title from colonel to president a few months ago, was forced to call troops into Athens Polytechnic Institute to put down student demonstrators. Despite the imposition of martial law, street fighting, mostly carried out by groups of ten to fifty people, was still being reported.

The call to the military to restore "order and security" came after a week of demonstrations at the Polytechnic Institute that virtually paralyzed Athens. Taking over the university on November 13, students demonstrated every night, bringing over 10,000 people into the streets each time. On November 16 the student's demands escalated from academic freedom to the overthrow of the Papodopoulos regime, the expulsion of all Americans from Greece, and the withdrawal of Greece from NATO. The next morning Greek troops and tanks entered the university.

Early reports placed the death toll at nine, the number of wounded in the hundreds, and those arrested in the thousands. Though Greece's recent political history has been stormy, the nine deaths shocked the Greek people. No one was killed when the military junta seized power in 1967, or when King Constantine staged an unsuccessful counter-coup in December of that year.

The renewed martial law brought with it a 4 pm to sunrise curfew, censorship of the media, suspension of all hunting and gun permits, and a decree prohibiting citizens from sheltering anyone not of their household. According to the New York Times, at least 2,000 people had been picked up by the police in the first 24 hours to determine "their degree of involvement."

Government spokesman Spyridon Zourantzis said that Papodopoulos ordered the military move on the recommendation of Premier Spyros Markezinis. Explaining the martial law decree Zourantzis said: "It is impossible to have a Western-type society without order and security."

Premier Markezinis assumed his office as head of an all-civilian cabinet in October. But President Papodopoulos, one of the colonels who staged the 1967 coup, retains full power in defense, foreign policy, and domestic security under the new Greek Constitution.

The respite from martial law was brief. Only three months ago, martial law was suspended for the first time since the April, 1967 military takeover. But the conditions for the return to civil rule insured that Papodopoulos and his junta maintained power.

Papodopoulos was named president and a constitution was drawn up that gave him virtually unlimited

power. The guise of choice in the whole transition was the election of the relatively unknown and easily manageable Markezinis as Premier. The trappings of that election, including armed men at the polling places and government control of the media, guaranteed no electoral opposition to Markezinis. There still have been no elections for Parliament, which has not met since before the military takeover in 1967.

Militant political activity has been increasing dramatically in Greece in the last couple years. For the first five years of military rule political protest was almost non-existent. Then, on April 21, 1972, the fifth anniversary of the coup, students demonstrated for the first time in five years. Despite martial law that prohibited any public gatherings, students took to the streets for two days to demand the right to elect their own representatives to the student government and the National Union of Students. The strikes spread to other universities throughout the country in late April and May of that year. At the Athens State Mechanical School, the strike lasted three months during which hundreds of students were arrested and, according to the British Manchester Guardian, many were tortured.

In January and February of 1973 strikes again hit the universities, marked by the largest militant demonstrations since the military came to power. At one point, over 4,000 law students barricaded themselves inside the law school of Athens University and showered police who surrounded the building with leaflets reading: "Down with the decree" and "Fascism will not pass".

The internal pressure caused by the student demonstrations and the bad world-wide publicity that the stepped up repression was bringing the junta and its chief supporter, the United States, combined to force Papodopoulos to call for the election that brought in Markezinis.

The coup of April 21, 1967, in which Papodopoulos came to power, was carried out by five junior officers, three of whom had been in the Greek intelligence service. According to Andreas Papandreou, a Minister at the time of the coup, since World War II the Greek intelligence agency was "both administered and financed directly, not via the Greek budget, but by the American CIA."

According to Papandreou, Papodopoulos was "the liaison man between the Greek CIA and the American CIA. In fact, he is the first CIA agent to our knowledge to be Prime Minister of a European country." Papandreou even asserts that during the coup, leadership "was provided by a group of American CIA officers in Greek uniforms."

Government statements as of a few days after re-instituting martial law have indicated that they still plan to hold the Parliamentary elections scheduled for next year. But the continued

the Vietnamese people:

Why do we call them the enemy?  
This struggling nation that we're bombing  
across the sea  
Why do we want these people to die  
Why do we say north and south, oh why,  
oh why, oh why?

CHORUS: Well that's just a lie  
One of the many and we've had plenty  
I don't want more of the same  
No more genocide in my name.

Then it applies this understanding to the United States:

Why are our history books so full of lies  
When no word is spoken of why the Indian dies  
Or that the Chicano loves the California land  
Do our books all say it was discovered by  
white man

CHORUS

Why are the weapons of the war so young  
Why are there only older men around when it's  
done  
Why are so many of our soldiers black or  
brown  
Do we say it's because they're good at  
cutting yellow people down?

CHORUS

Then came two men from the world of secrecy  
They carried some secrets off and shared  
    them with you and me  
I read the Pentagon papers seeking truth in  
    their history  
But who says that we have been preserving  
    a democracy.

CHORUS

Holly delineates another political concern with her song, GI Movement. Two others, Strong and Beautiful Days, are ballads of the struggles of women in opposing the war. And It's More Important to Me speaks of the preservation of that strength and its growth.

It's more important to me that we stay friends...

Sister, do you hear what I'm saying  
Don't you know that we must take care  
God, it's hard to change old habits

...  
But now we don't have to compete, my friends,  
to survive

I used to think there is only one man for me  
and they told me

"Girl, if he passes by you, don't you know  
that your life is through."

But men come a dime for twenty  
And for me that's going to be more than plenty  
It's more important to me that we stay friends  
for as long as we can.

"Hang In There" is distributed on an independent label. You can order copies for \$3.50 each (record rate), or \$4.50 (air mail) from: Redwood Records, 565 Doolin Canyon, Ukiah, CA 95482.

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[See packet #564 for story on Pedro Bissonette's murder.]

"THESE INSTANCES ARE INDICATIVE OF DAILY LIFE ON THE RESERVATION":

4th INDIAN KILLED ON RESERVATION SINCE WOUNDED KNEE

LIBERATION News Service

PINE RIDGE RESERVATION, S.D. (LNS)--"There's a war going on here," said one member of the Wounded Knee Legal Defense/Offense Committee in mid-November. In one week, one man was beaten to death and another was shot and is in critical condition. Both were supporters of the Wounded Knee takeover and both opposed the corrupt tribal government of tribal president Richard Wilson. This last killing brings to four the number which have occurred on the reservation since the siege ended in May.

"These instances are indicative of daily life on the reservation," said a press statement from the Defense/Offense Committee. "Those who are members of the American Indian Movement (AIM) and others who are involved in the Indian movement are prime targets of Richard Wilson's terror tactics. As the Indian struggle on the Pine Ridge Reservation gains support, Wilson finds it necessary to increase harassment and shootings in an effort to maintain his control.

"It is Richard Wilson, his goon squad and the BIA police that use these tactics and allow them to be used. Yet it is AIM members, supporters and reservation residents who will be facing trials starting a few weeks--for taking a stand for Indian rights."

On Tuesday, November 13, Philip Little Crow was beaten to death. Little Crow was the brother of Sarah Thunder Hawk, who acted as a liaison on the reservation to the Legal Defense/Offense Committee in their efforts to document both conditions on the reservation and the brutality used against residents by Wilson, his goon squad, the BIA (Bureau of Indian Affairs) police and the government in general.

Little Crow's death was not revealed until November 17 and at first the police reported that another man was killed. In an autopsy done by the U.S. District Attorney's office, the cause of death was shown to be a fractured skull.

Police have charged Irvy Hand, a member of Richard Wilson's goon squad, with voluntary manslaughter in Little Crow's death. According to Del Eastman, the BIA police chief, Hand was being held in the Rapid City Jail. However, after the Legal Defense/Offense Committee checked, it turned out that he was taken to the Rosebud Jail--about 100 miles from the reservation. According to a message intercepted on the police radio, Hand was to be held at the Rosebud Jail until someone brought him a change of clothes. The clothes he was wearing at that time were not to be released. The radio message also said that Roy Black Lance was to question Hand. Black Lance is the BIA investigator who shot Vernal Cross and shot and killed his brother Clarence last July.

The killing of Little Crow is not the only recent attack on the Thunder Hawk Family. A day before his death, in the early morning hours, shots

were fired into Sarah Thunder Hawk's home. BIA police arrived an hour after they called and made no investigation of the incident.

Five days after Little Crow was beaten to death, Pat Hart was shot and critically wounded. He underwent 10 hours of surgery for stomach wounds and is in critical condition at the Pine Ridge Public Service Hospital. The first night hospital authorities would not allow any members of his family to see him. According to one source, Hart was shot by Clark and Art Hopkins, both BIA police and one a former member of Wilson's goon squad. According to Eastman, the FBI is "assisting" the BIA police and they have four suspects but no one is in custody.

Pat Hart was a close friend of Pedro Bissonette, a well-known and well-liked activists on the reservation who was shot and killed by BIA police October 17.

It was supposedly to investigate Pedro's death that a grand jury was convened in Sioux Falls November 13. But it soon became apparent that his death was not the main focus of the investigation but instead it was an excuse for a "fishing expedition" into more people who had participated in or supported the Wounded Knee takeover.

At least 30 people who were Pedro's friends or who had been supporters of the takeover were subpoenaed to testify. All of them refused to testify on the grounds of the 5th Amendment. However, unlike the strategy with previous grand juries, the Justice Department didn't offer them immunity (thereby forcing them to testify). One person who was subpoenaed--Dr. Paul Bow, a Lutheran minister, claimed clergy privilege and he was held in contempt. He will have a hearing soon on whether he will go to jail.

After the 30 people refused to testify, the grand jury was dismissed but not without issuing four secret indictments which haven't been opened yet.

Whether there will be more indictments to be added to the over 200 already issued is yet unclear. Trials are already scheduled to begin. The first group will be those coming from the protests which occurred in Custer, S.D., a few weeks before the takeover, because of the government's refusal to prosecute the white murderer of Wesley Bad Heart Bull, a resident of the reservation.

Nineteen people are charged with such things as riot, arson, assault and conspiracy. Among the people charged are Wesley Bad Heart Bull's mother, several prominent AIM spokespeople and other Pine Ridge reservation residents. One defendant faces seven consecutive life sentences.

January 2, the first of the first group of 19 Wounded Knee cases goes on trial in Sioux Falls. The charges against people include interstate transport and use of firearms, impeding a federal officer during a civil disorder, burglary and larceny of the trading post, arson, as well as conspiracy to commit the crimes. Like with the Attica defendants, the government is planning on trying them as simple criminal cases.

At almost the same time, the conspiracy cases

of the people the government has picked out as leaders of the occupation (now minus Pedro Bissonette) will begin with the trial of Russell Means and Dennis Banks. Their trial has been moved to Minneapolis-St. Paul and is scheduled to begin January 8.

They are charged with aiding and abetting assaults, arson, burglary and larceny, as well as conspiracy. The Legal Defense/Offense Committee call the charges "a legal first. People have been charged with aiding and abetting an unknown person (usually when the government can't prove a conspiracy) but never have six people been charged with hundreds of people involved." The trials of the other people who have the same indictments--Carter Camp, Leonard Crow Dog, Clyde Bellecourt and Stan Holder, will follow, depending on the outcome of Means' and Banks' trial.

"The government will attack the defendants as lawbreakers," said a statement from the Legal Defense/Offense Committee, "while the defense will argue that the liberation was the only possible answer to the oppression of the tribal and federal government on Pine Ridge. The trials will be long and intense--a bitter battle over the acts and the politics behind those acts."

The Wounded Knee Legal Defense/Offense Committee critically needs funds and support. All together there are over 200 defendants with charges coming out of Wounded Knee. Send whatever you can to the Wounded Knee Legal Defense/Offense Committee, PO Box 255, Sioux Falls, S.D., 57101.

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#### THE SUN

The earth gives birth to the sun on the immense ocean.

Wearing a red beard on his face,  
And a scarf of white clouds,  
Baby Sun bids farewell to his mother.

Oh, how he loves Mother Earth!  
All day he sends her hot kisses  
Which warm her heart,  
Even after night comes.

"I never set," says the sun to his mother.

The sun is there on the Truong Son\* even at night:  
His light is in the headlights of the trucks heading  
for the frontline;

His heat is in the shells fired at enemy planes,  
His fire is in the hearts of the combatants.

"I never set," says the sun, "for I love you, Mother Earth."

Hoang Hieu Nhan, 11 years old

\*the major Vietnamese mountain chain

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Folks,

Please don't forget to inform us of any change of address.

Thanks, LNS

#### BLACK GI TO GET RETRIAL IN 1972 MURDER AND ASSAULT CONVICTION

CHICAGO (LNS)--Melvin X. Smith, a 24-year old black GI, convicted of murder and assault in a 1972 court martial, was granted a retrial in September. His case dates back to April, 1970--about 14 months after he had been drafted into the Army and 8 months after arriving in Vietnam.

Smith was known as a quiet, easy-going person. In April, 1971, while stationed in Quang Tri, a friend of his was killed in combat, which upset him a lot. The same evening, he slipped and fell off a 30-foot observation tower where he was on duty and though he was hurt, he waited until he was off duty before reporting to the dispensary with severe head and back pains. Though he had a lump on his head only his back was x-rayed and he was released after first-aid treatment.

Several people noticed that after his fall, Smith began acting strangely. On the morning of May 7, he was seen sitting alone, talking to himself. At noon, he walked into the mess hall with a gun shot and killed a white first sergeant and wounded two other enlisted men, and walked into his hut. Several shots were heard, and he was found with multiple bullet wounds which were assumed to be self-inflicted. In critical condition, he was evacuated to Japan for medical and psychiatric treatment, and was later moved to Fitzsimons Army Hospital in Denver.

His mother visited him at Fitzsimons and found him glassy-eyed, incoherent and confused. His friends reported that his behavior had completely changed--he had become extremely excitable and agitated. Even his handwriting had changed. He remembered almost nothing of what happened to him for some time after his fall from the tower, including when he shot the three men and himself. Smith was examined by Army psychiatrists at Fitzsimons and they found strong evidence of severe emotional disturbance. However, instead of giving him a medical discharge with disability benefits, the Army pushed for a court martial.

In August, 1971, Smith was removed from Fitzsimons, against the orders of his doctors, and flown to Da Nang, where he was put in the stockade. He spent over five months there, and without proper medical care, his wounds, which had not healed properly, got re-infected. Meanwhile, the Army held a sanity board hearing and, disregarding the judgment of the Fitzsimons psychiatrists, judged that Smith was legally sane at the time of the shootings.

The Lawyers Military Defense Committee in Saigon heard of his case and a lawyer was sent to Da Nang to defend Smith. However, Smith's company was pulling out of Vietnam, many witnesses had already left and the psychiatrists most familiar with his case were in Denver. The Army found him guilty of one count of murder and two counts of assault, and in February, 1972 sentenced him to life imprisonment in the Disciplinary Barracks at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

With the help of lawyers from the National Prison Project, Smith won an appeal on his conviction

November 21, 1973

more...

Meanwhile, Smith is still in Leavenworth. His wounds are still not completely healed, and he needs surgery for osteomyelitis, an infectious, inflammatory bone disease. Having become a Muslim, he has spent much of his time in Leavenworth, in maximum security, and is rarely allowed to see his wife and two year old son.

Donations can be sent to Melvin X. Smith Defense Fund, Independence Bank of Chicago, 7936 S. Cottage Grove Ave, Chicago, Ill, 60619. Checks should be made out to Mrs. Doreatha Smith Slaughter (Melvin's mother). Write on the check that it is for the Melvin X. Smith Defense Fund.

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LIBERATION News Service

The verbal agreement, worked out in Washington by the UFW, the Teamsters and the AFL-CIO, called for the Teamsters to immediately recind all grape contracts taken from the UFW, including the Gallo and Franzia wine contracts and contracts with two major lettuce growers. Other Teamster lettuce contracts would not be renewed when they expire in 1975.

The UFW had been pressuring the Teamsters to sign the agreement when Fitzsimmons announced the break-off on November 15 after a meeting with California growers in San Diego. He said that the union would keep its "moral and legal" commitments to the growers.

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This is not the first time that the Teamsters have reneged on an agreement with the farmworkers. The UFW actively began to organize lettuce workers in 1970. But the lettuce growers, rather than deal with the UFW--fresh from its victory over the grape growers and strong in its demands for decent wages and working conditions--set out to find a union less likely to fight so hard for farmworkers' rights.

In March, 1971, however, the Teamsters, amid growing support for the UFW from organized labor--including the powerful AFL-CIO--made a pact with the Farmworkers. They agreed to only represent the lettuce packers and shippers and to allow the UFW to represent those actually working in the fields. They also agreed not to renegotiate their contract with the growers when contract time came around again.

In April, 1973 the Teamsters continued their union-smashing tactics by signing sweetheart contracts with over 40 grape growers in the Coachella Valley, previously contracted with the UFW. And all through the rest of the spring and summer the sweetheart contracts grew in number.

Through all this the grape and lettuce boycotts have increased in intensity and effectiveness across the country. One New York City liquor storeowner, asked if the strike and boycott had affected the California wine industry, replied "there's no question about it--they've been hit." He estimated that in the past year, Gallo, one of the wineries specifically designated as a boycott target, has raised its prices by about 20%.

G?G?G?G?G?G?G?G?G?G?G?G?G?G?G?G?G?G?G?G?G?G?G?

"...I'm not a crook. I've earned everything I've got."

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[Note to editors: For more information on nuclear waste see #537.]

CORPORATE POLICY INTENSIFIES NUCLEAR WASTE PROBLEM;  
CURRENT SITUATION IS LIKE "SITTING ON A TIME BOMB"

LIBERATION News Service

LOS ANGELES (LNS)--Deadly radioactive waste products from American-built nuclear reactors in foreign countries are being brought back into the United States in spite of the fact that the U.S. already has serious problems in storing its own radioactive wastes.

General Electric and Westinghouse have built nuclear power plants in three countries so far--Canada, Japan and Italy. Part of the building contract calls for the reprocessing of fuel after it has gone through the power plant. This reprocessing is responsible for nearly all the lethal radioactive waste products generated by nuclear reactors.

The fuel "rods" must be returned to the United States for reprocessing. During the reprocessing reusable uranium and other saleable radioisotopes are extracted from the rods, leaving considerable amounts of deadly radioactive waste. The waste products remain in this country under what the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) calls "perpetual care."

At the same time, AEC officials concede that the United States has not solved its own problems of nuclear waste disposal. The 30-year history of the Nuclear Age is replete with serious incidents documenting the mismanagement of radioactive waste products in this country.

And far from slowing down to reconsider the use of nuclear power plants, the White House is pushing development full speed ahead. In his November 7 Energy Crisis speech Nixon called for the speedy construction of more nuclear plants. White House energy advisor John Love has recommended that the AEC be able to license nuclear reactors without the normal hearings.

"We are in a mess right now," one key AEC consultant confided to the Los Angeles Times in August, "and what bothers the hell out of me is we are only on the toe of the nuclear age."

While the consultant's identity was withheld because of fear of professional harm, he and his associates furnished the Times with documents revealing details of the AEC's failure to deal with the waste problem adequately.

Some of the incidents were:

-- More than a half of a million gallons of deadly radioactive liquid has leaked from huge storage tanks at the AEC's Hanford, Washington facility with the more recent leaks being the larger ones--70,000 gallons two years ago and 115,000 gallons during last July. Some of the liquid is so hot that it boils from its own radioactivity, and if allowed to boil dry would melt through its steel tanks.

The storage tanks themselves are 20 to 30 years old, and a report from their civilian contractors in conjunction with the Illinois Institute of Technology

states that "the self-boiling tank structures are being stressed well beyond accepted design limits."

The 115,000 gallon leak, nearly one-third of the 29-year old tank's contents, was not detected for several days, and released such deadly substances as plutonium, strontium 90, and cesium directly into the ground. As of now, at least 42 million gallons of high level radioactive waste is stored at Hanford.

-- Other leaks have occurred at a similar facility at Savannah River, South Carolina where storage tanks are located on the same level as the water table. At least one of the seven reported leaks caused radioactive material to actually enter the water table.

The results of this are not yet known. Once the radioactive waste was lost in the water table, it was impossible to trace and no one knows exactly where it is or what to do about it.

-- Plutonium, the most carcinogenic (cancer-causing) agent known and quite possibly the most dangerous substance on earth, has been buried in ordinary steel drums at the National Reactor Testing Station (NRTS) near Idaho Falls, Idaho despite warnings that the drums would leak.

In 1970, the Federal Water Quality Administration released a study which showed that radioactive wastes from NRTS have indeed entered the ground water.

The NRTS is located on the Snake River plain of southeastern Idaho which is underlain by the Snake River Aquifer, one of the world's most productive ground-water reservoirs. The reservoir feeds into the Columbia River system and contamination poses a serious threat to water supplies for much of the Pacific Northwest.

-- Accumulation of plutonium in a trench at the AEC reservation in Hanford has reached such a high level that a nuclear chain reaction is possible, according to an official AEC report. The AEC is now developing equipment to mine its own trenches--paid for by a \$1.9 million Congressional appropriation.

When asked what they planned to do with the radioactive material after they dig it up, Thomas A. Nemzek, manager of the Hanford operation replied, "We'll probably put it in steel drums and bury it."

Apparently, Nemzek isn't familiar with, or chooses to ignore, the leakage of plutonium from steel drums at the Idaho Falls station.

The scope of the problem is staggering. It has been estimated, for example, that there are more radioactive pollutants stored at the single Hanford reservation than would be released during an entire nuclear war.

The crisis is intensified by the nature of the materials. Plutonium, produced when uranium is bombarded with neutrons during the reactor process, takes 24,000 years to reduce its radioactivity by one-half. Thus it has a half-life of 24,000 years.

Once ingested, plutonium attacks the bones

and lungs and a tiny speck can prove extremely hazardous. As a result, this deadly substance must be isolated from the human environment for thousands of years.

The scope and seriousness of the atomic waste disposal problem has had little, if any, effect, however, upon companies like Westinghouse, General Electric, EXXON or Gulf Oil.

For instance, General Electric's nuclear reactor sales contracts require its customers to buy fuel from GE--which means that fuel rods are shipped back to the GE reprocessing center in Morris, Illinois where nuclear waste disposal must be handled.

It isn't likely that this procedure will change since more money stands to be made on the fuel than on the reactors themselves. The AEC annual reports on the nuclear industry show that the dollar value of exported nuclear fuel material exceeded the dollar value of exported reactors and instruments as early as 1969.

And although radioactive waste products are presently stored here from only Japan, Canada and Italy, AEC documents indicate that the amount of fuel for foreign reactors that will be processed in this country, and the resultant waste material--not to mention our own waste--will probably be very substantial in the years ahead.

In a recent annual report, the Atomic Energy Commission projected that "foreign free world" requirements for fuel will nearly equal domestic requirements by 1985 and figured that nearly 60% of that requirement would be met by U.S. processing plants.

This means the continuing addition of enormous amounts of dangerous nuclear waste to a situation which is presently described by one AEC official as comparable to "sitting on a time bomb."

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#### OBITUARY FOR A CASUALTY OF THE ENERGY CRISIS

WHITESBURG, Ky. (LNS)--The following obituary was submitted to The Mountain Eagle, a weekly newspaper serving eastern Kentucky mining communities. It appeared in the November 15, 1973 issue.

"Funeral services were held last week in Washington for Appalachia. She was ten million years old at the time of her death. She had been sick for 52 years, ever since the coal companies started operating on her and taking out her internal organs.

"Cause of death was determined to be too many operations, as evidenced by the many hundreds of scars on her sides. She will be sadly missed by her relatives and neighbors. The President was in charge of funeral arrangements."

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#### THE FOLLOWING BLOOPER COMES COURTESY OF THE SAN GABRIEL VALLEY, CALIF. TRIBUNE (May 9, 1973)

WASHINGTON (AP)--Egil "Bud" Krogh, boss of the White House "plumbing" team that burglarized the office of Daniel Ellsberg's psychiatrist, resigned today as undersecretary of burglary was made known.

#### OILMAN HEADS PENTAGON FUEL PROGRAM; DEFENSE DEPT. "CLAIMS" TO ELIMINATE WASTES

WASHINGTON (LNS)--Claiming that the Arab oil embargo has put a pinch on their supplies, the Defense Department recently invoked the 1950 Defense Production Act which gives it first priority on domestic oil. As a result about 600,000 barrels of oil will be diverted daily from civilian to military use. According to the Pentagon, the step was needed to meet "essential national security needs."

The Defense Department claims that it will limit its own fuel consumption because of the Energy Crisis, but actions speak louder than words. Recently the Department admitted that it flew two plane loads of Congresspeople to Georgia on November 18 for the 90th birthday of the former head of the House Armed Services Committee, Carl M. Vinson. It was estimated that the two planes consumed 7,400 gallons of jet fuel on the round trip flight.

In response to further questioning, the Defense Department also admitted that it used nine planes to fly cadets and midshipmen to the Army-Navy football game on November 17. It was also revealed that the week before two Naval reserve planes on "training flights" were used to transport the Naval Academy's drum and bugle corps to the Navy Georgia Tech game at Jacksonville, Florida.

The Air Force Academy also admitted using seven planes to take its drum and bugle corps to the Air Force-University of Arizona football game. They estimated that about 17,785 gallons of fuel were used on that trip alone.

Air Force Lieutenant General Daniel James Jr., Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs defended the flights as "pretty essential" since the drum and bugle corps make the Air Force team "play harder."

Meanwhile, in response to a question raised by a reporter, Deputy Defense Secretary William P. Clements Jr., said he saw no conflict of interest in his directing the Pentagon's fuel conservation program. The Pentagon is the nation's largest user of fuel and Clements is a substantial shareholder in a Texas oil drilling company.

Through a spokesman, Clements refused to disclose his stockholdings in SEDCO Inc., a Dallas-based company he founded in 1947. Records filed with the Security and Exchange Commission, though, show he holds over a million and a half shares in the company worth more than \$90 million at the current market price. SEDCO has increased from a low of \$35 a share this year to a closing price of \$57.25 on November 16.

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"THEY STILL WANT BLOOD":  
THREE NEW ATTICA INDICTMENTS ISSUED

LIBERATION News Service

BUFFALO, NY (LNS)--"The same sickness that caused the wholesale slaughter of unarmed men, inmates and guards alike, still prevails," said Mrs. Laverne Barkley, mother of inmate Elliot (L.D.) Barkley, who was killed in the aftermath of the Attica Rebellion. "Effort to justify these acts of murder is now the business of the day and with one-sided law and appointed judges, they are doing a 'good job' of indicting inmates. They still want blood."

As the grand jury looking into Attica moved into its second year of sitting (making it one of the longest grand juries in history) it issued three new indictments in the middle of November.

The new indictments cover the "kidnapping" and deaths of two inmates, whom the state claims were murdered before the assault on the prison. Charged are five inmates--Frank Smith, Herbert X. Blyden, Bernard Stroble, Eric Thompson and Roger Champen--all known to be politically active and all on the negotiating committee elected by the inmates during the rebellion.

Faced with so many past defeats--the Chicago 8, the Panther 21, Angela Davis, Camden 28--the government (which has put over 2 years and several million dollars into the case) decided not to issue any conspiracy indictments. Instead the indictments are for very specific, traditionally "criminal" acts. "It was a tactical decision to de-politicize the indictments," said one lawyer.

At the beginning of November, the chief prosecutor on the case, Anthony G. Simonetti, told a reporter that the grand jury "is approaching an end." As it stands now the over 60 inmates have been charged with crimes ranging from murder to kidnapping to assault to possession of a weapon. No state police, prison guards, National Guardsmen, sheriff's deputies who participated in the armed assault on the prison or state officials have been charged for their parts in the massacre in which 39 people died by gunfire. Among the weapons used during the assault was the .270 hunting rifle loaded with dum-dum bullets (soft-nosed bullets which expand on impact causing a larger wound) which are outlawed by the Geneva Convention.

Liberal columnist Tom Wicker (who was also a member of the observer's committee during the rebellion) put it simply: "It is clear by now that the state of New York does not intend to prosecute any of its own, whether they are high-ranking or low."

On November 16, New York State Supreme Court Justice Charles J. Gaughan threw out a defense motion for dismissal of the charges against the inmates on a variety of grounds ranging from the bias of the grand jury, to the selective prosecution of only inmates and not law enforcement personnel, to the fact that the rebellion itself was "a last ditch attempt to tell [the prisoners'] story and save their own humanity." And though the McKay

Commission itself--a state committee set up to investigate Attica--documented the deaths and brutality by law enforcement officials, Gaughan wouldn't even hold a hearing on the motion for dismissal.

At just about the same time, the Attica Brothers Legal Defense (ABLD) uncovered more concrete evidence of illegal acts by the government in the Attica cases.

At the beginning of November, Attica defense lawyer Leonard Klaif telephoned the legal office of ABLD. He called several times and the line was busy. Then suddenly he heard the voice of Linda Lucas, an Attica legal staff member. But Linda Lucas was in New York City at the time, and what he heard was a recording of a conversation which had taken place over the phone six days previously, clear evidence that the phone was tapped.

On November 15, lawyers for ABLD requested an evidentiary hearing to look into governmental misconduct in the case, citing the tapped phone as only one example. "The phone is used exclusively for conversations with Attica defendants and other defense lawyers and legal workers," said Tim Kelly, Executive Secretary of the ABLD. "To tap this phone is not only a federal crime, but is also a clear violation of the Sixth Amendment right to confidentiality in lawyer-client relationships."

Judge James O. Moore has reserved judgement about whether to have an evidentiary hearing.

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The Attica Brothers Legal Defense needs money to be able to fight the complicated legal battles. Send whatever you can afford to ABLD, c/o The Challenger, 1301 Fillmore, Buffalo, NY, 14211.

Many of the indicted men are available for speaking tours and the defense is putting together a quantity of informational material. Write to them at Attica Brothers Legal Defense, 1370 Main St. Buffalo, NY, 14209.

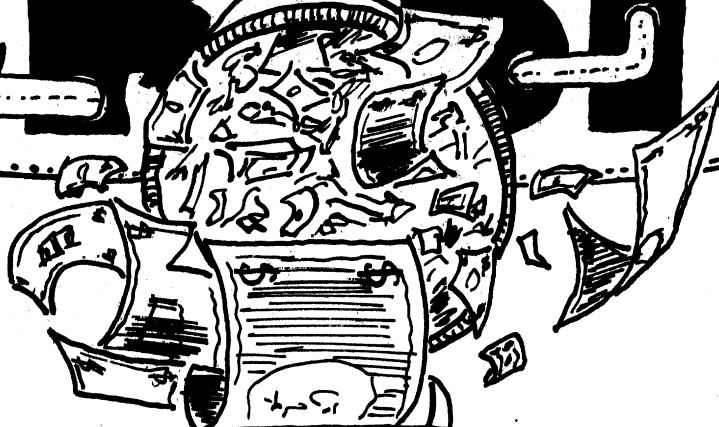
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\*\*\*\*\*  
A WORK OF ARTIFACE\*\*\*\*\*

The bonsai tree  
in the attractive pot  
could have grown eighty feet tall  
on the side of a mountain  
till split by lightning.  
But a gardener  
carefully pruned it.  
It is nine inches high.  
Every day as he  
whittles back the branches  
the gardener croons,  
It is your nature  
to be small and cozy,  
domestic and weak;  
how lucky, little tree,  
to have a pot to grow in.  
With living creatures  
one must begin very early  
to dwarf their growth:  
the bound feet,  
the crippled brain,  
the hair in curlers,  
the hands you  
love to touch.

--Marge Piercy

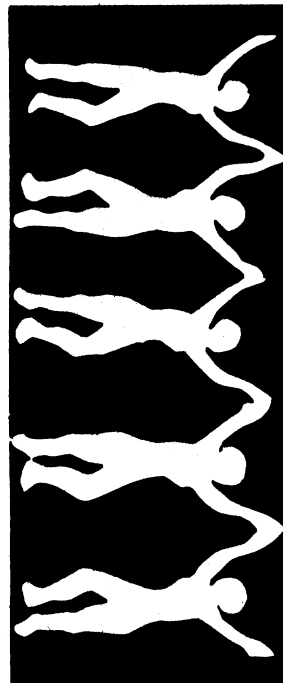
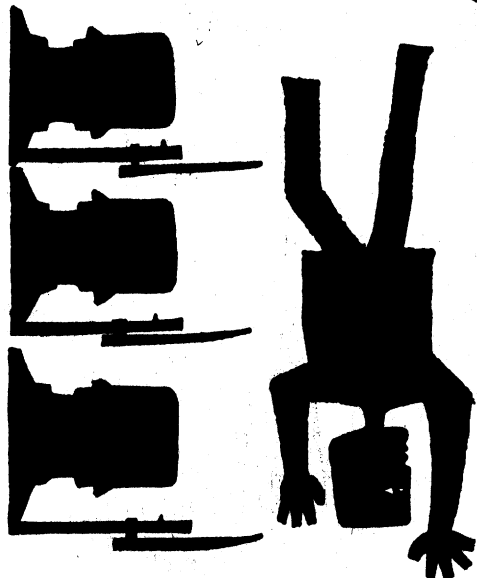
# EXXON STANDARD TEXACO SHELL ENERGY CRISIS



**PROFITS\***  
(3<sup>rd</sup> QUARTER '73 OVER  
3<sup>rd</sup> QUARTER '72)

|          |      |
|----------|------|
| GULF     | +91% |
| EXXON    | +81% |
| STANDARD | +51% |
| TEXACO   | +48% |
| SHELL    | +23% |

\*BUSINESS WEEK NOV 10, 1973



ALL THIS  
DEMOCRACY  
IS KILLING  
ME!

By Oliphant

'Smile! You Are Dancing Because You Are Now a Democracy!'

TOP: Energy Crisis big five quarterly profits. May be used with energy story in the last packet (#569).  
CREDIT: LNS

MIDDLE RIGHT  
CREDIT: THE NEW  
WOMAN'S SURVIVAL  
CATALOG/ LNS

MIDDLE LEFT CREDIT:  
BRAZILIAN INFORMATION  
BULLETIN/LNS

BOTTOM: This cartoon was done in reaction to the Greek military junta's declaration of "constitutional democracy" in mid-summer. See story P. 3